SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
S. B. REGISTRY
No. S. B. D.
Date

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS,

APR 20 1939

Local Official Makes Protest to S.M.C.

The Shanghai Municipal Council was accused of negligence in controlling terroristic activities in a protest sent yesterday afternoon to Mr. C. S. Franklin, Chairman of the Council, by Mr. Fu Siao-en, Mayor of the Greater Shanghai Special Municipality, in connection with the murder of Dr. Hsi Shih-tai, Secretary of the Police Bureau of the Municipality, on April 11.

File

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
S. I. REGISTRY
No. S. H. D. 9122
Date 18 4 39

APR 18 1939

Stricter Anti-Terrorist Measures Requested

Representations in regard to the assassination of Dr. Hsi Shih-tai, Secretary of the Police Bureau of the Greater Shanghai Special Municipality, requesting the enforcement of stricter measures to prevent terrorist crimes in the Settlement were presented to the Shanghai Municipal Council by the Japanese consular authorities yesterday, according to a communiqué issued by the Japanese Consulate-General at 5.30 p.m. The communiqué reads as follows:

"Mr. Yoshiaki Miura, Consul-General, accompanied by Mr. Hidenari Terasaki, at 3.45 p.m. called on Mr. C. S. Franklin, Chairman of the S.M.C., in regard to the assassination of Dr. Hsi Shih-tai on April 11, and filed representations with him concerning the incident in question.

"Furthermore Mr. Miura requested a strict enforcement in the future of understandings reached between the Japanese authorities and the S.M.C. on the prevention of terrorist actions in the Settlement."

FILE

SHANGHAI EVENING POST & MERCURY.

APR 1 1 1939

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
S. B. REGISTRY
No. S. B. D. 9122
Date 14.4.39

Ta Tao Official Killed In Lloyd Rd. Shoot-Up; Three Suffer Wounds

NIPPON-EDUCATED MEDICO KILLED OUTSIDE HOSPITAL

Japanese Wife Of Dr. Hsi Shih-Tai, Secretary Of "Reformed Government" Police Bureau, Avoids Fate At Side Of Husband

POLITICAL SHOOTING RESUMES

Dr. Hsi Shih-tai, well-known Japanese educated medical practitioner and secretary-general of the "Public Safety Bureau" of the Japanese sponsored "City Government of Greater Shanghai," was assassinated at Lane 131, Lloyd Road, a few paces from his home at 9.30 this morning.

The murder this morning was the first major "execution of traitors" since the killing of Marquis W. H. (Kuo-chieh) Li, grandson of Lord Li Hung-chang and rumored as a candidate for the post as Minister of Communications in the "Reformed Government" in Nanking, on Sinza Road on February 21.

C.P.C. Wounded

While Dr. Hsi was instantly killed by the assassins, a Chinese police constable, No. 730, was wounded in the shoulder when seeking to overpower the fleeing gunmen. Despite the wound, he kept on firing, his marksmanship greatly handicapped by the pain. During the shooting, two more persons were wounded. They both claim to be pedestrians and absolutely innocent of the murder.

Dr. Hsi was walking out from his home at 12, Lane 127, Lloyd Road, this morning, taking a short cut by way of the adjoining Lane 131. He was accompanied by his Japanese wife. When mid-way between his home, which is also a private hospital, and Lloyd Road, two gunmen accosted him and fired at close range. He dropped dead instantly. The gunmen immediately fled, heading for Lloyd Road, leaving the Japanese Mrs. Hsi, who was wearing a Chinese dress at the time, unmolested.

Gunmen Open Fire

Near the entrance of the alley, the gunmen met the Chinese constable who was rushing to the spot upon hearing the pistol shots. Before he could ascertain the identity of the gunmen, he was shot in the shoulder. Despite the wound, he replied, but apparently ineffectively.

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NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS

APR 13 1939

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL 03834
S. B. REGISTRY
No. S. B. D. 9122
Date 13 4 39

Two Suspects Held In Murder

Both Believed Implicated In Assassination of "Ta Tao" Official

Detectives investigating the murder on Tuesday morning of Dr. Hsi Tsi-taung have established that the two men at present in custody were actually concerned in the attack, it was reported yesterday.

One of the men, Peng Fu-lin, is at present a patient of the Paulun Hospital with a serious bullet wound in the abdomen and his condition is so critical at the present time that detectives have been unable to question him. The other man was arrested at the Paulun Hospital on Tuesday morning as he had accompanied Peng to the establishment. Police suspicions were aroused when it was learned that the two men had been near the scene of the shooting on Lloyd Road and had failed to demand assistance after Peng was injured, taking rickshaws to the hospital, from where doctors informed the police that a man with bullet wounds had just been admitted.

Detectives took the friend of the injured man to Louza police station where he was questioned and his statements led the police to the belief that both men were in some way connected with the criminal attack on the late secretary of the Public Safety Bureau of the "Ta Tao" government.

Although no definite information was given the press yesterday, the "North-China Daily News" understands that the injured man had actually fired at the C.P.C. who was injured, whilst the gunman's wound was caused by a bullet fired by the Chinese policeman as the latter gave chase to the decamping terrorists. No weapons were found on either of the two suspects and the belief that at least one more man must have been connected with the shooting is understood to prevail.

Meanwhile, ballistic experts of the Shanghai Municipal Police have carefully examined the bullets extracted from Dr. Hsi's body and it was found that the weapon used in slaying the official had no previous police history in this city.

The shooting, it will be recalled, occurred shortly after 9.20 a.m. on Tuesday as Dr. Hsi proceeded along an alleyway on Lloyd Road towards his car parked in the thoroughfare. Suddenly a gunman fired a series of shots, killing the physician instantly as three bullets hit him, one in the region of the heart.

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13/4

Search Continues

A city-wide search is at present being made for other members of the terrorist group responsible for Tuesday's slaying whilst Peng is being guarded by policemen at the hospital who prevent anyone from communicating with him.

As a result of Tuesday's shooting, a military spokesman of the Japanese Expeditionary Forces in Central China, made a statement in which he accused the Shanghai Municipal Council of not having followed the recommendations made by the Japanese in preventing additional outrages in the Settlement. He also said that certain defects in the working of the S. M. P. were still noticeable. In this connection, it may be recalled that both suspects were in the hands of the police some twenty minutes after the shooting occurred although their definite implication only seems to have been established after hours of questioning of the one suspect in the physical position to talk.

03842

CHINA PRESS.

APR 13 1939

Another Assassination

ONCE again a Chinese puppet official has been laid low by an assassin's bullet, and once again we reiterate our view that such acts of terrorism, notwithstanding their motives, in the long run accomplish no purpose whatsoever but even serve to defeat the cause for which the daring attempts are made.

As we stated before, it is not on any moral grounds whatsoever that we oppose terrorism. We have no sympathy for any of the victims. It is purely a matter of practical results. If terrorism were to contribute to China's cause, then we would whole-heartedly endorse it. But since terrorism in any political movement never has advanced that movement, but has caused it to retrogress, we therefore condemn it as a method.

Terrorism operates on the false premise that by the removal of certain personalities, a new state of affairs can be brought about. This springs from the so-called "devil theory" of history in which objective conditions are interpreted solely in the light of personalities. This school regards Mussolini and Hitler as historical accidents, not on the agenda of the day, neglecting at the same time the obvious fact that these gentlemen are but the reflection of the economic and social conditions which produced them. The assassination of either dictator would change the Italian and German states not in the slightest, nor does the assassination of puppets in China seriously impede Japanese efforts to organize their regimes.

If a political aim can be accomplished by terrorism, then it follows that all that is necessary is to kill off a few people. But even the most ardent advocates of terrorism don't lay claim to being able to achieve such results. Terrorism results from entirely misplaced emphasis and understanding, and a totally false evaluation of the means of struggle. It is at best an isolated act of despair, whatever be the patriotic motives. The history of Germany and Russia proves conclusively that terrorism plays into the hands of the enemy. Though we may sympathize with terrorists, we cannot but condemn their work as harmful, in the long run, to China's cause.

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NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS,

03794

APR 1 2 1939

Pro-Japanese Official Shot Dead by Terrorists

Military Spokesman Indignant, Accuses S.M.C. of "Policing Defects"; C.P.C., Pedestrian Wounded

AFTER two and a half months' of inactivity, anti-Japanese terrorists went into action yesterday and killed Dr. Hsi Tsztaung, secretary of the "Public Safety Bureau" of the Japanese sponsored "Special Municipality of Shanghai", as he was leaving his residence in Lane 139, Lloyd Road, shortly after 9.20 a.m. Two gunmen stood at the entrance of the alleyway, fired a number of shots, three of which injured the victim, and decamped. C.P.C. 730 who was near the scene, took up the chase, ordered the two gunmen to halt and when they refused to do so, he drew his service pistol, fired two shots and sagged to the ground as one of the terrorists fired once more to wound the policeman slightly in the right shoulder. Notwithstanding his injuries, the C.P.C. arose from the pavement and gave chase, but meanwhile the two gunmen had been successful in disappearing in the crowd.

A pedestrian on the opposite side of Lloyd Road who had come into the line of fire, was injured in the abdomen and is now lying in the Paulun Hospital in a very serious condition.

S.M.C. Criticized

This assassination brought forth criticism on the part of Lieut.-Col. Mabuchi, Director of the Press Bureau of the Japanese Expeditionary Forces to Central China, in a statement made yesterday afternoon, in which the Shanghai Municipal Police is accused of not having adopted measures suggested by the Japanese authorities in preventing terrorist outbreaks.

"We are constrained to declare that there are still several defects in the policing activities of the Shanghai Municipal Council", the Japanese officer stated, "inasmuch as that the Council was to take ample precautions against outrages of this sort by adopting measures suggested by the Japanese authorities following the assassination of Mr. Chen Loh".

In the same statement, the spokesman said that it was desirable that agencies alleged to be maintained by the Chungking Government in the International Settlement should be closed, and that publications, which, according to the same spokesman, received their instructions from the Chungking Government, should be closed down as well.

The deceased was struck by three bullets, one entering the left side, just below the heart and emerging from the chest, one on the left side of the neck and another on the right side of the neck. Death was presumably instantaneous but an ambulance was called and Dr. Hsi was taken to the Paulun hospital where he was declared dead on arrival.

Many Shots

The exact number of shots fired by the assassins, could not be ascertained as they used revolvers, which fact also left the police without the usual cartridge clue which could have possibly enabled them to trace the police history of the pistol, if any. Nevertheless, it is believed that about ten shots were fired in all, two by the C.P.C. and about eight by one of the gunmen. It was not believed that the second gunman did any shooting, although here, too, statements made by persons near the scene of the firing at the time, are rather contradictory.

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Japan Returned Student

Dr. Hsi was a graduate of the Nippon Medical College and had practised medicine in Shanghai for the past 20 years. He also owned a private hospital and was understood to be interested in a number of important business firms in this city. Whilst he is known to have been married to a Japanese woman, he also had a Chinese wife and a concubine. He was the father of seven children, the elder being 24 years old.

Since the assumption of his new duties as secretary of the "Public Safety Bureau", Dr. Hsi made it a practice to leave his home at the same time each morning, his car, bearing licence number 3147 and painted of a very conspicuous blue, usually waiting on Lloyd Road at the immediate exit of the alleyway.

Cultural Worker

Japanese circles yesterday claimed that Dr. Hsi had done a great deal of work in the cultural field and that "there is reason for greater indignation at this dastardly attack if the relations existing between the victim and the Japanese Army are taken into account."

Plain-clothes Japanese gendarmerie arrived at the scene a few minutes after the ambulance had left with Dr. Hsi and the C.P.C. They made preliminary investigations and left the scene a few minutes later, whilst at about 12 o'clock noon, four or five Japanese pressmen armed with cameras and suitcases filled with flash-bulbs, were seen walking into Louza Police Station, being presumably under the impression that the corpse was being kept there. They left the station a few minutes afterwards.

By a late hour last night, no further arrests had been made in connection with the shooting, notwithstanding the fact that a large number of detectives from Louza station and headquarters were still working on the case feverishly at the time of going to press.

Previous Assassinations

The last political assassination to have occurred in the International Settlement, was that of Marquis Li on the afternoon of February 21, when the Marquis was walking along Avenue Road with a friend, on his way to consult a physician.

As a result of this murder and that of Mr. Chen Loh, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the "Reformed Government" in Nanking, the Japanese authorities made a series of protests to the Shanghai Municipal Council as a result of which an agreement was reached according to which closer co-operation of the Japanese authorities and the Shanghai Municipal Police were arranged. Lloyd Road where the shooting occurred, runs parallel with Yu Ya Ching Road, and enters Nanking Road south of the Sun Sun Co.'s department store.

A curious turn of the shooting may be found in the fact that the injured pedestrian did not ask for assistance at the scene, although in a serious condition, but arranged his own transportation to the Paulun Hospital, where the doctors informed the police that a man with gun-shot wounds had been admitted.

Meanwhile, the injured man, whose name is given as Peng Fu-lin, 23, a native of Soochow, has been placed under police surveillance at the Paulun Hospital, until an improvement in his condition will permit detectives to question him. A friend who accompanied him to the hospital was questioned by detectives at Louza police station and it was understood that he has been detained, although this could not be confirmed at a late hour last night. As far as could be ascertained just before going to press, it will be some considerable time before the seriously injured man can be questioned, provided that he recovers at all, and it seems somewhat premature to classify him as a suspect.

Press Conference Statement

At the press conference yesterday, the army spokesman, supplementing Lieut.-Col. Mabuchi's statement, hoped that the Council would take measures to curb such activities. A redeeming feature of the affair was the gallant action of the Chinese constable who opened fire on the assailants, he added. Further, the Japanese Consular Police had been informed by the Municipal Police that one of the wounded men was considered as a suspect, but full details were not available.

In reply to questions the spokesman stated that the Japanese had not asked for the custody of the suspect and that so far no protest had been registered by the Japanese authorities with the Municipal Council.